Scalda College

BYOC in education

Scalda

The Dutch institutes for vocational education in Westerschelde and Zeeland are highly committed to deliver quality education. Because the use of ICT in this respect is a very important factor, both institutes decided independently to implement the Scense solution. The benefits of Scense became even more obvious, before during and after the merger of these large education centers into the new Scalda College.
In the reference-case, Hans Treebush of the former ROC Zeeland and Thomas de Koster of the former ROC Westerschelde explain the considerations surrounding the decision to implement Scense as well as the benefits they now experience on a daily basis.

Challenges
Supporting school applications on student laptops, and the merger of the two large education centers

Solution
Unified and centralized IT management using Scense Workspace Management with support for non-domain computers

Benefits
One flexible management solution for all computers, including BYOD, relieves the IT department

Consideration 1: Student laptops

Both ROC Zeeland and ROC Westerschelde saw the need for students to use their own laptops during and beyond their classes. Thomas explains: "Our students in most cases already own a laptop. With the first student laptops came the first requests to gain access to the school's applications, printers and file shares. Being able to honor this request is for both the students and ourselves a huge benefit. To us it leads to enormous savings in the purchase of hardware and Windows software licenses. Students gain a lot of flexibility"

Hans adds: "During the first meetings with Appixoft about BYOC we have expressed our concerns about the issues surrounding software license regulations when supporting laptops of students but also from employees.

These concerns were immediately dispelled when we saw that applications also can be removed or

deactivated immediately or after use. We could for example block the access to applications or printers based on the environment of the user. With Scense we can restrict the access to certain software and services to locations inside the school's perimeters."

IT landscape
- ✓ 400 software applications for students and staff
- ✓ 11,000 students
- ✓ 2,500 PCs
- ✓ 200 thin clients

Benefits of using Scense
- ✓ Support student laptops.
- ✓ One management solutions for all PCs.
- ✓ Flexibility for students and staff.
- ✓ Decrease workload IT management.
- ✓ 70% decrease in help desk calls.

Consideration 2: General PC management

Although the initial choice for Scense was based on the support of student laptops, it soon became obvious that other PC's in use could also be managed in a better way after the implementation of Scense. Both institutes were using Novell Zenworks to manage these PC's. This software is currently being phased out and replaced by Scense.

Hans explains: "The interface of Zenworks was too complex for our IT department and PC configuration changes or updates were almost impossible to be carried if not possible at all. Our help desk could therefore hardly satisfy all the questions of the students and staff. In addition, the client software of Zenworks often crashed, start menus were gone and PC's froze after not being used for some time."

Thomas adds: "For our IT department, learning to use Scense requires very little effort in comparison with Novel Zenworks and the solution is also more flexible than Zenworks. Eventually, the implementation of Scense leads to less workload in terms of IT management".

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Consideration 3: The Merger.

Both institutes chose Scense independent of each other. Once the plans for a merger became known, this choice proved to be the best choice they could have made. Hans explains: "Because both IT departments use Scense, merging both environments means very little effort. We only need to determine which software applications remain in use and which will be discontinued. We then link the new user groups to the applications and Scense does the rest."

Savings

Both Hans and Thomas agree that the key drivers in choosing Scense were related to the required increase of the quality of services to the students. In the Netherlands, schools are competing to win students. The services available to the students will have a positive impact on the decision what school to attend to.

During the interview it became obvious that there were also a lot of savings achieved in the workload of the IT department. Hans explains, "In the past we had to flush all PC's every four weeks and provide them with software and other things. This process took an average of 45 minutes per PC and with thousands of PC's so this is a burdensome task for the IT department. Now we do not flush PC's anymore."

Hans adds: " Additionally, we have noticed that the use of Scense has saved us at least 70% on helpdesk calls"

About Appixoft

Through our high-end User Workspace Management solution Scense, we deliver dynamic applications in a personalized workspace to many thousands of satisfied users worldwide. Scense plays a strategic role in delivering functionality and real-time access to the right persons, in time, wherever they happen to be. By doing so, we enable organizations to deliver business-critical applications and information quickly and efficiently. We work towards the ultimate productivity and user experience for both end users and administrators. And with a great sense of honesty: Appixoft provides, Scense delivers!

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